

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9853

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 05042

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, ET

SUBJECT: APPROACHES BY ETHIOPIAN ROYAL FAMILY

1. AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED WRITTEN MESSAGE FROM CROWN PRINCE ASFA WOSSEN ASKING HIM TO TRANSMIT LETTER AND STATEMENT ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ETHIOPIA TO PRESIDENT FORD. (LETTER TO PRESIDENT AND STATEMENT BEING POUCHED TO BARRETT-AF/E.) ASSUME SAME LETTER AND STATEMENT BEING SENT TO OTHER CHIEFS OF STATE VIA THEIR EMBASSIES IN LONDON, AS MESSAGE TO AMBASSADOR WAS FORM LETTER ADDRESSED TO AMBASSADORS AND HIGH COMMISSIONERS. MAIN POINTS IN CROWN PRINCE'S STATEMENT ARE: CALL FOR CONDEMNATION OF "MUTINEERS"; CALL FOR OAU TO CONVENE EXTRA-ORDINARY SESSION TO DISCUSS MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO LIBERATE ETHIOPIA; CALL ON UN TO USE POWER, INFLUENCE AND SANCTIONS; CALL ON FRIENDLY NATIONS NOT TO RECOGNIZE PRESENT REGIME; WARNING TO "ANYONE COVETOUS OF ETHIOPIA'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY" NOT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MOMENTARY INTERNAL TRIBULATIONS; CALL ON ETHIOPIAN OPPONENTS OF REGIME TO COORDINATE THEIR ACTION WITH GENERAL BODY OF ARMED FORCES AGAINST DIRG.

2. PROFESSOR EDWARD ULLENDORFF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, WELL-KNOWN AMAHARIC SCHOLAR, ALSO CALLED ON EMBASSY APRIL 3, AND SAID HE HAD COME AT REQUEST OF PRINCE ZARA YACOB. ACCORDING TO ULLENDORFF, CROWN PRINCE AND

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OTHER MEMBERS OF ROYAL FAMILY ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER

ISOLATION IN WHICH EMPEROR AND HIS DAUGHTER AND GRAND-CHILDREN ARE LIVING AND WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER US GOVERNMENT MIGHT USE LEVERAGE OF ARMS REQUEST TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS IN WHICH ROYAL FAMILY ARE KEPT AND ALSO ALLOW EMPEROR TO SEE MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY. ICRC HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN THIS REGARD. EMBOFF ASSURED ULLENDORFF THAT USG CONCERNED OVER FATE OF EMPEROR AND PROMISED TO CONVEY ZARA YACOB'S REQUEST TO APPROPRIATE US AUTHORITIES.

RICHARDSON

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